

SOCIOLOGY 101
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
Tuesday / 6:30-9:40 / Room 404
Fall 2012

Instructor Information

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IVC Catalog Course Description

An introductory course to the study of society. Major ideas, concepts, and methods in the study of society to include culture, social structure, social stratification, deviance and social control, social change, and marriage in the family.

Student Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this course the student should...

1. be able to identify and employ various research designs and their appropriate application to the study of social life.
2. be able to demonstrate an understanding of the major theoretical perspectives employed in the discipline.
3. be able to demonstrate an understanding of how social class affects individual life chances.
4. be able to demonstrate an understanding of social structure and how it shapes and influences social interactions.
5. be able to demonstrate an understanding of cross-cultural differences and an understanding of the importance of cultural context.
6. be familiar with the concepts of culture and its components (e.g., norms, values) and to identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.
7. be able to describe various levels of social organization including groups, formal organizations and bureaucracy, and larger forms of organization like community, society, and the world-system.
8. be familiar with the "nature vs. nurture debate," the impact of learning on the human condition, and important agents of socialization.
9. be able to describe various explanations for deviance.
10. be familiar with types of crime, explanations for crime, and trends in crime rates.
11. be familiar with major issues related to inequality (e.g., social class, race & ethnicity, and gender.)
12. become familiar with the role the economy plays in our lives.
13. be familiar with social change in various contexts like gender, bureaucracy, urbanization, population, and global development (to mention a few).

Required Textbooks: Ferris & Stein, 2012, "Sociology: The Real World", 3rd Edition New York: W.W. Norton, ISBN: 978-0393-91217

Grading Process

1. Exam #1	(50)
2. Exam #2	(50)
3. Exam #3	(50)
4. SLO Project	(75)
5. Thought Papers	(75)
6. Current Events	(150)
7. Quizzes	(150)

Grading Scale

540-600 pts	A
480-539 pts	B
420-479 pts	C
360-419 pts	D
Below 359	F

Three Exams (50 pts each)

There will be three exams given throughout the semester. The first exam will cover the first five chapters (Chapters 1-5). The second exam will cover the next five chapters (6-10). The third exam will cover the last five chapters (11-15)). A study guide will be distributed every week and we will review as a class before each exam. The exams will be multiple choice, T/F, fill in the blank, or short answer. **Please bring in #2 pencil and scantron to each examination**

Make-up examinations will be accommodated provided they are taken within one week of the scheduled examination and are pre-approved by the instructor. If approved, the make-up exam will be one grade lower.

Quizzes (150 pts)

There will be a total of 15 quizzes during the semester. These quizzes will cover important terms, topics, and events, for each chapter. Quizzes will be given promptly at the beginning of class so please be here on time. The quizzes will serve as a study guide for each chapter. You cannot make up any quiz, no exceptions (only at my discretion)!

Thought Papers (75 pts)

There will be a total of three (3) essays due at various intervals during the semester. Each essay will be worth 25 points each. These essays will be based on the readings, class material, and class discussions. The main focus of the essays is for you to learn how think critically about sociology. Some you will only have to answer one question; some may have to choose between more than one. They are to be at least two (2) pages in length. These assignments shall be submitted at the beginning of the class for which they are due (date will be posted on your schedule of assignments). Late papers may be submitted, however, they will receive a 10 point reduction in points with each week they are late (1 week = 10 pts off, 2 weeks = 20 points off, etc). E-papers may be accepted with prior approval from the instructor; however, they must be submitted prior to the starting time of the class session on the day they are due. E-papers are subject to the same rules regarding lateness as regular papers.

Current Events (150 pts)

There will be a total of 15 current events assigned throughout the semester. One for each chapter assigned. These papers will be assigned to you or to a group and you get to pick the question you wish to address. Some may only have one question; some may have more than one. They are to be at least one page in length. These assignments shall be submitted at the beginning of the class for which they are due (date will be posted on your schedule of assignments) or at the end of class if assigned in a group. Late papers may be submitted, however, they will receive an increasing 10 point reduction in points

with each week they are late (1 week = 10 points, 2 weeks = 20 point, etc). E-papers may be accepted with prior approval from the instructor; however, they must be submitted prior to the starting time of the class session on the day they are due. E-papers are subject to the same rules regarding lateness as regular papers.

Student Learning Outcome Project (75 pts)

In order to demonstrate your communication skills, you will be required to write a short paper (4 pages) using three (3) research sources. This paper may be about any sociology topic of your choosing. To demonstrate globalization, this paper will compare or contrast your chosen topic to the American way of life. For example, if you wanted to talk about families in America, you would compare and contrast how families are different in America compared to other countries. You will demonstrate your information literacy by finding your articles on internet databases or by going to the library. Personal responsibility will be measured by turning in your SLO project when due, in order to fulfill the requirements of this course.

Attendance

The IVC General Catalog states:

"Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students enrolled. Instructors are expected to take a student's attendance record into account in computing grades. A student may be excluded from further attendance in a class during any semester when absences after the close of registration have exceeded the number of class hours which the class meets per week."

Please **NO FOOD!** Unless otherwise told. Please turn Cell Phones off or at the very least put them on vibrate. All electronic devices (computers, mp3's, pda's, ect) are to be turned off during class.

Academic Dishonesty

Imperial Valley College's regulations regarding cheating and plagiarism are clear:

"If cheating or plagiarism is discovered, while this behavior will not get you kicked out the class or expelled from college, you will fail that assignment and you will be reported to IVC's disciplinary officer"

The last day to drop with a "W" is November 10, 2012.

Special Accommodations

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible.

**DSP&S
Room 2117
Health Sciences Building
(760) 355-6312**